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BY: Gene Conte

DATE: April 1, 2004

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:	Patent Application of Stephan Prestel	: Group Art Unit 3731 : : :
Conf No.:	8933	: : : Examiner: Bradford C. Pantuck :
Appln. No.:	10/039,506	: : :
Filed:	January 4, 2002	: Attorney Docket : No. 7535-651US :
For:	SURGICAL INSTRUMENT	: (RW 616 US)

AMENDMENT

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 19, 2003 (Paper No. 5) in the above application. This response is being timely filed in view of the submission herewith of a Petition for Extension of Time (one month) to and including April 19, 2004. Please amend the application, without prejudice, as follows.

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